

## **EPA Starts An Emergency Removal Action At The Diaz Intermediates Corp. (PRP), West Memphis, Arkansas.**

The site is an abandoned and bankrupt manufacturing facility that was referred to the EPA by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). The site manufactured various organic chemicals containing bromine and it filed for bankruptcy during the summer of 2007. The Site is 10 acres in size and contains approximately 2,000 drum/tote containers. On January 22, 2008, EPA received the six water sample laboratory results from the secondary containments, drum pad areas, and the site drainage ditch. The EPA has forwarded the results to ADEQ and the City of West Memphis. On January 28, 2008, EPA and the START 3 and ERRS contractors remobilized to the site to pump down the site of free standing water. Water within secondary containment #1 had a pH of 4.24 and high zinc so EPA will raise the pH and resample to verify that the zinc has settled out. Water within secondary containment #2 and the bulk truck loading pad exceeded the state parameters for on-site discharge as storm water drainage so this water was pumped into the on-site sanitary sewer system for further treatment by the city POTW. Water within the drum pad, north pad and storm water ditch areas was within the state storm water parameters so these water were allowed to naturally drain off-site. The EPA has been informed by the secured lender, Bank of America, that another potential buyer maybe interested in the site and they are planning a site visit sometime during the week of February 4, 2008. The site remains basically secure for now, but the metal drums, tanks and process area will continue to deteriorate with time.

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